

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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TWO JACKSON COUNTY RESIDENTS, KC WOMAN INDICTED FOR MORTGAGE FRAUD

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Bradley J. Schlozman, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that an Independence, Mo., woman, a Lee's Summit, Mo., man and a Kansas City, Mo., woman have been indicted, in two separate but related cases, for mortgage fraud.

* Eric Kendall Taylor, 35, of Lee's Summit, and Doris J. Taylor, 58, of Kansas City, were charged in a 20-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City on Tuesday. Eric Taylor is a real estate investor. Doris Taylor, his mother, is a real estate broker and investor at Doris J. Taylor Realty.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Eric** and **Doris Taylor** conspired to defraud mortgage lenders of more than \$5 million and to transfer money taken by fraud across state lines. According to the indictment, **Eric** and **Doris Taylor** acquired residential properties after foreclosure and at reduced prices, then recruited straw buyers to purchase that real estate and obtain mortgage loans for the properties, or purchased properties in their own names. They allegedly prepared false and fraudulent loan applications and supporting documentation for submission to mortgage lenders in the names of the straw borrowers, caused inflated appraisals to be prepared in relation to the properties, and submitted false and fraudulent loan applications, appraisals, documentation and other representations to mortgage lenders.

The indictment alleges that, in order to further the conspiracy, **Eric Taylor** purchased a false Social Security number and false payroll stubs during the summer of 1999 to submit to mortgage lenders to document the false information he planned to submit on loan applications. In July 2000, he allegedly created false payroll stubs and false W-2 forms, falsely showing he was employed by a fictitious company at a fictitious salary. In 2001, **Eric Taylor** allegedly arranged for and set up a business telephone line at the home of a relative to list on loan application as the telephone number of his employer. When a mortgage lender called the business telephone

number, the relative confirmed the information or took a message and notified Eric Taylor.

As a result of this false information used in applications for mortgage loans, the indictment alleges, between the summer of 1999 and Sept. 23, 2005, mortgage lenders approved 23 fraudulent loans totaling \$5,158,368.

Counts Two through Fourteen of the federal indictment allege 13 separate instances in which **Eric** and **Doris Taylor** transferred money obtained illegally through fraud across state lines.

Counts Fifteen through Twenty of the federal indictment allege six separate instances in which **Eric Taylor** wrote checks on bank accounts that contained funds obtained by fraud. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal to engage in monetary transactions, affecting interstate commerce, in criminally derived property of a value greater than \$10,000.

* **Daryl Ann Daniel**, 51, of Independence, was charged with wire fraud in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City today. **Daniel** was previously employed as a title company closer at Realty Title in Independence.

Today's indictment alleges that, between Sept. 5, 2000, and April 26, 2001, **Daniel** conspired with **Brent Michael Barber**, 41, of Belton, Mo., who has been convicted in three separate federal indictments and awaits sentencing, to defraud a mortgage lender during the sale of property she owned at 611 W. Farmer in Independence.

According to the indictment, on April 17, 2001, a loan application containing false and fraudulent representations – including an inflated appraisal that misrepresented the condition of the property – was submitted to Fremont Investment and Loan Corp. The sale price for the property was inflated and falsely reported to Fremont as \$70,000, and a 75-percent mortgage loan of \$56,000 was approved. In reality, the indictment alleges, the total sale price was \$56,000.

Daniel allegedly signed a false settlement statement related to that loan on April 25, 2001, which claimed that the buyer had made a \$3,500 deposit and that **Daniel** as the seller was funding and giving the buyer a 20 percent loan and taking a second deed of trust. The indictment alleges that **Barber** actually provided a cashier's check for \$3,500, which was purported to be the buyer's deposit. **Daniel** allegedly endorsed the cashier's check and returned it to **Barber**, and signed a release on the deed of trust on June 8, 2001.

Schlozman cautioned that the charges contained in these indictments are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

These cases are being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda Parker Marshall. They were investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and IRS-Criminal Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html